

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application, Claims 11-20 having been amended. Support for the amendments to Claims 11-20 is found, for example, at page 5, lines 24-30 of the originally filed specification. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed toward non-statutory subject matter; and Claims 1-10 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 1-10.

As for the rejection of Claims 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, that rejection is respectfully traversed. Independent Claim 11 is amended to recite "A computer readable storage medium encoded with computer executable instructions which cause a computer to implement a method comprising...."

Thus, independent Claim 11 (and claims dependent thereon) define structural and functional interrelationships between a computer program and a computer, which permits the computer program's functionality to be realized. See In re Lowry, 32 F. 3d 1579, 1583-84 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

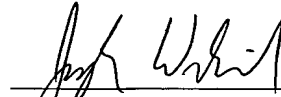
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work with the Examiner in a joint effort to derive mutually satisfactory claim language.

Application No. 10/722,479
Reply to Office Action of December 18, 2006

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and early communication to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Joseph Wrkich
Registration No. 53,796

I:\ATTY\JW\245615US\245615US_AM DUE 3-18-07.DOC